

REMARKS

Claims 11-21 and new Claims 22 to 26 remain active in the case.

Claim Amendments

Claims 19 and 21 have been amended by limiting the molar ratio range of reacting diisocyanate to monoalcohol from 1.5:1 to 6.7:1. Basis for the upper limit of the now more narrow range can be found in Example 3 in Table 1 on page 11 of the specification. Accordingly entry of the amendment to the claims is respectfully requested. Claim 14 has been amended in the manner of Claim 19.

New Claims 22 and 26 have been presented that are modeled on Claims 19 and 21. However, while the original claimed range of reacting diisocyanate to monoalcohol of 1.5:1 to 20:1 has been retained in these claims, the scope of the 6-membered cycloalkyl groups of the first of the three subsets which defines group R^3 in the claims has been limited to those in which three hydrogen atoms of the cyclohexyl group are substituted by C_1 - C_4 -cycloalkyl groups and one or two ring carbon atoms are optionally substituted by direct attachment of oxygen of an oxygen-containing functional group or a tertiary nitrogen atom substituted by two C_1 - C_4 -alkyl groups. Accordingly, these claims do not contain cyclohexanol and monoalkyl substituted cyclohexanols within their scope.

New Claims 23-25 correspond to active Claims 11-13

The amendments to the claims and the newly presented claims are not believed to have presented new matter into the case. Entry of the amendments and new claims is respectfully requested.

The Wolff et al patent has been cited against the claims in the previous prosecution of the application. However, the reference is now believed overcome because Claims 19 and 21 in the presently amended form do not include monoalcohol reactants that correspond to group R^3 within the quantitative range specified in column 5, lines 16-20 of the patent of 0.5 to 10 mole % based on the amount of organic diisocyanate employed. Further, although newly presented Claims 22 and 26, which correspond to Claims 19 and 21 respectively, retain the original mole ratio range of 1.5:1 to 20:1 for the ratio of amount of diisocyanate reactant to monoalcohol, the scope of the 6-membered ring cycloalkyl groups has been limited in such a fashion as to exclude the several cyclohexanol group containing monoalcohols disclosed at column 4, lines 66-67 of the patent. Accordingly, in view of the arguments advanced on the record further in view of claims that are distinguished from the subject matter of the reference, the obviousness ground of rejection of record in the case is believed overcome and withdrawal of the same is respectfully requested.

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Preliminary Amendment

It is now believed that the application is in proper condition for consideration on its merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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